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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China/Korea/USSR/Hong Kong

DATE DISTR. 14 Sept. 1950

SUBJECT 1. Movements of MORTRANS Vessels
2. Visit of Shanghai METCO Manager to Hong Kong

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. SS EASTERN VENTURE, voyage 10, was scheduled to leave Dairen on 7 September and proceed directly to Hong Kong, arriving about 15 September 1950. Her manifested cargo included 2,600 tons of bean cake and 1,000 cases of glass.
2. The MORTRANS vessel, SS ALDAN, was still undergoing repairs in Dairen on 6 September 1950.
3. On 6 September 1950 the MORTRANS vessel, SS AIVAZOVSKY, was still in Kowloon Bay, despite a report that it had left for an unknown destination on 1 September.
4. In late August 1950 the SS AZOV* took three days between departure from Hong Kong and arrival in Canton, although the normal sailing time is 20 hours**. The reason for the delay was unknown to the METCO office in Hong Kong, which had received no notification to confirm the report, published in the China Mail on 1 September, that the AZOV had gone aground in the Pearl River. This report was believed incorrect, and METCO personnel were of the opinion that Sergeyev, master of the AZOV, had awaited favorable weather before proceeding in unfamiliar waters.
5. On 5 September 1950 Charles CHEONG, METCO manager in Shanghai, made a short visit to Hong Kong. He was entertained at a party aboard the SS EASTERN PRIDE, which was attended by a majority of the Hong Kong staff of the Metropolitan Commercial Company (METCO) and the officers of all the MORTRANS vessels in port.***

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* See [REDACTED]
25X1A** [REDACTED] Comment. The ordinary river steamers usually make the trip in about 12 hours.
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*** [REDACTED] Comment. All ships mentioned in this report are referred to in [REDACTED].

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